

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MBFR V 00481 201414Z

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S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0481

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: PORTUGUESE PARTICIPATION IN AD HOC GROUP

REF: USNATO 5647

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ON OCTOBER 17, PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR CONDE AGREED TO RESPECT CONDITIONS FORMULATED BY THE AD HOC GROUP AND APPROVED BY THE NATO SECRETARY GENERAL. THE ARRANGEMENT AGREED ON SHOULD PERMIT CONTINUED PORTUGUESE PARTICIPATION IN THE AD HOC GROUP WHILE PROTECTING NATO SECURITY. END SUMMARY.

2. ON OCTOBER 16, AD HOC GROUP CHAIRMAN SPYRIDAKIS (GREECE) CALLED A SPECIAL SESSION OF HEADS OF DELEGATION OF THE AD HOC GROUP FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF PORTUGUESE PARTICIPATION ISSUE. SECRETARY CHOEN, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE AD HOC GROUP, READ THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL JUNG, WHOSE CONTENT IS BASED ON SEVERAL PREVIOUS EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE AD HOC GROUP AND THE SYG.

BEGIN TEXT:

PARA ONE

ON BASIS OF YOUR MESSAGE CITED AND NATIONAL REPORTING,
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SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00481 201414Z

I UNDERSTAND AHG VIEW TO BE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) AMBASSADOR CONDE'S WISH TO RETAIN THE RIGHT TO ATTEND MEETINGS, WITHOUT EXERCISING IT VERY OFTEN MEETS AHG SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.

(B) CONDE IS NOT TO RECEIVE DOCUMENTS CLASSIFIED NATO SECRET OR HIGHER, EXCEPT FOR RECORDS OF INFORMAL AND FORMAL SESSIONS WITH EAST, AND HE IS NOT TO BE ACCCOMPANIED OR REPLACED BY ANOTHER MEMBER OF HIS DELEGATION.

(C) AHG PROCEDURES ARE SUFFICIENTLY FLEXIBLE TO ENABLE CHAIRMAN TO PREVENT DISCUSSION OF SENSITIVE MATTERS IN THE PRESENCE OF CONDE AND THAT WEEKLY CHAIRMEN WILL ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENSURING THIS.

(D) CONDE HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WOULD ATTEND ONLY VERY OCCASIONALLY.

(E) IF SECRETARY GENERAL CONCURS, CHAIRMAN OF THE WEEK WILL GO OVER THE ARRANGEMENTS (EXCEPT ITEM C) INFORMALLY WITH CONDE TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THEM.

PARA TWO

UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, AND WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE SITUATION WILL BE KEPT UNDER CONTINUING REVIEW, I UNDERSTAND SECRETARY GENERAL HAS NO OBJECTION AT THIS TIME TO CONDE'S OCCASIONAL ATTENDANCE AT AHG MEETINGS.

PARA THREE

PLEASE CONFIRM WHETHER AHG CONCURS. IN CASE YOU HEAR THAT ADOPTED PROCEDURE IS NOT BEING FOLLOWED LATER ON PLEASE REPORT IMMEDIATE.

END TEXT.

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SECRET

PAGE 03 MBFR V 00481 201414Z

3. AFTER DISCUSSION, THE AD HOC GROUP AGREED THAT CHAIRMAN SPYRIDAKIS SHOULD PUT POINTS (A), (B) AND (D) OF PARA ONE IN TEXT ABOVE TO PORTUGUESE REPRESENTATIVE CONDE.

4. ON 17 OCTOBER, SPYRIDAKIS REPORTED THAT HE HAD APPROACHED CONDE AND BRIEFED HIM ON THE LINES SPECIFIED. ACCORDING TO SPYRIDAKIS, CONDE WAS OBVIOUSLY HAPPY ABOUT

THE OUTCOME. CONDE THANKED AD HOC GROUP AND THE SECRETARIAT FOR THE DECISION REACHED. HE STATED HIS AGREEMENT WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE GROUP PRESENTED BY SPYRIDAKIS. HE SAID HE CONTINUED VERY BUSY AND THAT HE DID NOT INTEND TO USE THE RIGHT OF ATTENDANCE OFTEN. CONDE ALSO SAID HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS OF THE PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON THE ISSUE AND NOW INTENDED TO INFORM THE LATTER AS WELL AS DE FREITAS OF THE DETAILS OF THE AGREED ARRANGEMENTS. DEAN

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